

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 7 and 16 have been amended and claims 4 and 6 have been cancelled. Claim 24 has been added.

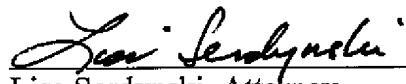
Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 as being definite. Claim 1 has been amended to overcome this rejection.

Claims 1-9, 12, 15 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kamada (US 6,340,338). Claim 1 has been amended to recite a first tooth having a first recess having a first run-on ramp for lifting the outer link plate in a radial direction when the outer link plate is positioned laterally at the first tooth and a second tooth having a second recess having a second run-on ramp for lifting the outer link plate in the radial direction when the outer link plate is positioned laterally at the second tooth. Kamada discloses a single continuous recess having two depths 71 and 72 (further described as D1 and D2 in US 4,889,521, referenced at col. 10, line 61 of US 6,340,338). Further, at least recess portion 71 is missing a run-on ramp. Accordingly, Kamada fails to show first and second recesses with corresponding first and second run-on ramps as recited in amended claim 1. For this reason, this rejection should be withdrawn.

This amendment is believed to be fully responsive to the comments and suggestions of the Examiner and to place this application in condition for allowance. Favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

MARKUS REITER



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